

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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> Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

February 12, 2009

To:

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

STATUS OF FORECLOSURE/FRAUD PREVENTION NOTION

A motion was introduced, and approved, at the January 13, 2009 Board meeting requesting:

- Community Development Commission (CDC) to report back in one week regarding the status of county' application with HUD and State Neighborhood Stabilization Programs.
- Registrar Recorder County Clerk (RR/CC) and Consumer Affairs (DCA) to report back in two weeks on notification to homeowners and apartment dwellers and use of RR/CC Vital Records system by the District Attorney (DA), Sheriff, etc. for law enforcement efforts.
- Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back in 30 days on County multijurisdictional, public and private efforts to address crisis, including exploration of creation of a countywide approach and task force to identify ways to prevent fraudulent loan practices and assist affected homeowners.
- A verbal amendment to motion specified that actions in this motion were not to diminish the effectiveness of the existing District Attorney Real Estate Fraud Prevention Program.

CDC released their response on January 20, 2009. RR/CC released their response (incorporating DCA and County Counsel comments) on January 27, 2009. The RR/CC report identified actions necessary to do a notification program (legislation needed and a funding stream identified).

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DCA has been meeting and responding to questions from Supervisors' offices individually regarding current programs and outreach to communities.

The CEO contacted the Assessor, RR/CC, Chief Information Office and Internal Services Department to determine who had the best database for creating maps of foreclosed properties in each Supervisorial District. We plan to use the Assessor's data and have asked the GIS unit to create the maps for each district.

The CEO has scheduled a major interdepartmental meeting for February 17, 2009. We have also requested DCA to invite key contacts from State, Federal and other agencies to the February 17 meeting. Other agencies which DCA has recommended be part of the meeting include the State Attorney General, State Department of Real Estate, State Department of Corporations, US Federal Trade Commission, the FBI Mortgage Fraud Squad, and the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office.

DCA is working with the CEO to develop a proposed plan to address key aspects of the motion. The draft plan includes a three-part approach: outreach and education; central reporting and complaint handling; and Investigation and prosecution. DCA and the CEO are assessing the operational and fiscal feasibility of the plan and will get input from County and other public agency representatives at the February 17th meeting.

The DA has a Real Estate Fraud Task Force set up for County departments to share information. We plan to coordinate our efforts with this group. The Task Force has the following membership:

- Los Angeles District Attorney
- Sheriff
- o RR/CC
- o DCA
- o CA Dept. of Real Estate
- CA Dept. of Corporations
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Long Beach Police Department
- Inglewood Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Internal Revenue Service
- o District Attorney representatives from Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties

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We request a one month extension on the due date for the response to the motion as we will need to incorporate comments from other agencies into the DCA draft plan. We also need to meet with the non-profit and other groups that can assist with the education and outreach component.

If you have any questions or require further information on this matter, please contact Ellen Sandt, Deputy Chief Executive officer at (213) 974-1186 or esandt@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:SRH:EFS SW:ef

c: Assessor

District Attorney

Sheriff

Chief Information Office

Community Development Department

County Counsel

Department of Consumer Affairs

Internal Services Department

Registrar Recorder/County Clerk

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